

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Governor's Task Force on Drug Enforcement, Treatment, and Prevention Hosts its Third Meeting in South Bend

INDIANAPOLIS – The Governor's Task Force on Drug Enforcement, Treatment, and Prevention hosted its third meeting in South Bend on Thursday, November 19. Presentations were offered from the following individuals and organizations:

- Bruce Lemmon, Indiana Department of Correction
- Judge Kim Hall, Starke County Circuit Court
- Dr. Deborah McMahan, Allen County Health Commissioner
- Chris Johnson, Indiana Family and Social Services Administration
- Kevin Moore, Indiana Family and Social Services Administration
- Sharon Burden, Partnership for Education and Prevention of Substance Abuse
- Jan Noble and Jim Starkey, Elkhart County Drug-Free Partnership

Additionally, residents from St. Joseph and Allen Counties offered public comment.

Following presentations and public comment, a list of action items was discussed, and a vote was taken as to which items would be presented to the Governor. The following action items will be presented to the Governor:

- Direct the Department of Correction to work with Starke County to adopt and pilot the Regional Therapeutic Communities program.
- Direct the Task Force to request that the INSPECT Oversight Committee explore possible measures to increase access to INSPECT for prescribers and dispensers (For more information on INSPECT, visit: <http://www.in.gov/pla/inspect/>).
- Support the following legislative items:
 - Expand the Lifeline Law to include immunity beyond alcohol offenses.
 - Amend state law to require the Indiana State of Department of Health to issue a standing order for the dispensing of an overdose intervention drug, such as naloxone.
 - Modify the Commission for a Drug-Free Indiana in a way that maintains support for locals but brings together state agencies and stakeholders to address the drug abuse issues Indiana is facing today.
- Direct the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration to implement the Gold Card Program, which removes administrative burdens by allowing qualified physicians the ability to prescribe medications without prior authorization.

The Task Force will hold its next meeting in Indianapolis on December 8 at 9:00 a.m. at Community Hospital North (7250 Clearvista Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46256). As always, public testimony is welcomed and encouraged.

For additional information about the Task Force, as well as a list of resources, post-meeting recordings, minutes, presentation materials, and upcoming agendas, please visit: www.drugtaskforce.in.gov.

Established by Executive Order, the Task Force brings together Indiana experts from a variety of specialties to evaluate the growing drug problem in Indiana.

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